

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-7, 9-21, 23-44, 46, 47, 49-65, 67-76, 78-92, 95-100, 102, 103, 105-112, 114-116 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 1, 26, 37, 57, 60, 61, 65, 76, 78-82, 84-92, 102, 103, 105, 108 and 114 have been amended as shown on pages 2-16 of the Reply. Claims 8, 22, 45, 48,, 66, 77, 93, 94, 101, 104 and 113 stand cancelled herein. Applicants' representative thanks the Examiner for the teleconference of September 6, 2007. The merits of the subject claims were discussed vis-à-vis the cited references.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

**I. Rejection of Claims 1-116 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)**

Claims 1-116 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bailey *et al.* (US 2006/0167864 A1). Withdrawal of this rejection is requested for at least the following reasons. Bailey *et al.* fails to disclose or suggest each and every element of the subject claims.

For a prior art reference to anticipate, 35 U.S.C. §102 requires that “*each and every element* as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” *In re Robertson*, 169 F.3d 743, 745, 49 USPQ2d 1949, 1950 (Fed. Cir. 1999) (*quoting Verdegaal Bros., Inc. v. Union Oil Co.*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)) (emphasis added).

Applicants' claimed subject matter relates to data analysis, and systems and methods for obtaining information from a networked system utilizing a distributed web crawler. Information gathered by a server's web crawler is compared to data retrieved by clients of the server to update the crawler's data. In particular, independent claim 1 recites *a data analysis system, comprising: a first component associated with a server of the data analysis system that facilitates generation of a first data set related to web page information obtained via a communication system; and a second component associated with at least a client of the server that coordinates a data set relating to web page information from at least one distributed*

*resource which interacts with the communication system; the second data set is utilized to refine the first data set, wherein refining the first data set comprises at least one of adding unknown information to the first data set when new information is received from the distributed source via the second data set or updating existing information in the first data set when changes have occurred in the contents of the web page as indicated by the second data set.*

Independent claims 37, 57, 61, 92 and 113 recite similar features. Bailey *et al.* is silent regarding such novel features.

Bailey *et al.* relates to a search engine system for locating web pages with product offerings. At page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner contends that Bailey *et al.* discloses novel features of applicants' claimed invention. Applicants' representative avers to the contrary. In accordance with the subject invention, a server hosts a web crawler that searches a communication network such as the Internet for other servers hosting web pages, gathers information about these web pages and compiles them for utilizing with a web page search engine (*See* applicants' Fig.1 and Fig.2). The server then sends a representation of this web page information to a client of the server. When the client accesses that particular web page or detects web pages that are unknown to the server, the client compiles changes/status and/or new information about the known and unknown web pages. This information is then transmitted to the server, which utilizes the information to update its original crawler web page data to reflect a new web page or change of contents in a known web page. By having distributed resources, the server expands its crawler capabilities without burdening its own immediate resources. At the cited portions, Bailey *et al.* discloses the Product Spider database that includes information about independent web sites, unaffiliated with the host web site, that offer products for sale. Products are scored based on the degree of content offering products for sale in the webpage. A category ranking process prioritizes by category, based upon assessment of the significance of each category to a search query submitted by a user. When updating the database, URL's of the existing database are submitted to the second crawling stage, updated, duplicate submissions are detected and removed. However, the cited document is silent regarding utilizing web page information communicated by a client of the distributed web crawler system to update its original crawler web page data to reflect a new web page or change of contents in a known web page. For example, Bailey *et al.* teaches a conventional web crawler implemented by a server but does not teach or suggest that the web crawler 160 is updated with inputs from the clients

110 (*See Bailey et al.* Fig. 1 and paragraph [0037]). Thus *Bailey et al.* does not disclose a distributed web crawler wherein a client updates web pages associated with a server of the distributed system as recited by the subject claims.

Accordingly, it is requested that this rejection with respect to independent claims 1, 37, 57, 61, 92 and 113 (and the claims that depend from) should be withdrawn.

**CONCLUSION**

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP475US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,  
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